REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, Claims 1-2, 4-5, 9, 15 and 17 are amended. No claims are canceled or added herewith. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter is added by this Amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,539,396 to <u>Bowman-Amuah</u>.

Applicants respectfully submit that the applied art does not teach or suggest a canonicalization process step of subjecting document data to a canonicalization process to correct fluctuation of expression including at least one of deletion of redundant white spaces and recovery from omission of a close tag, as recited in Claim 1 and similarly recited in Claims 2, 4-5, 9, 15 and 17.

Instead, the applied art is directed to a system and method for implementing an association of business objects without retrieving the objects from a database on which they are stored. As discussed in column 244, the applied art teaches that the object-based system 11,400 uses a shared format to convert an object into raw data. The raw data is then copied into a stream. The stream then delivers the data to non-object system 11,402. The non-object system 11,402 reads the raw data and reconstitutes the data using its shared format. Once at the non-object system, interface code reads through the stream, parses the values off of the stream, converts them to the appropriate types if required, and puts them in a copy book with the appropriate structure.

Accordingly, there is no teaching, disclosure or suggestion for the features recited in the independent claims. Again, the independent claims recite that the canonicalization process step of subjecting document data to a canonicalization process to correct fluctuation

of expression includes at least one of deletion of redundant white spaces and recovery from omission of a close tag. The applied art merely discloses parsing values off of the stream and converting them to the appropriate types and putting them in a copy book with appropriate structure.

Consequently, for the reasons discussed in detail above, no further issues are believed to be outstanding in the present application, and the present application is believed to be in condition for formal allowance. Therefore, a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner deem that any further action is necessary to place this application in even better form for allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative at the below listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,

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